

High Middle Ages (1000-1300)

- Most of Europe has embraced Christianity
- Population in Europe grows to about 80 million by 1340
- Urbanization – London, Paris, Venice, Cordoba, Hangzhou, Constantinople...etc...
- Guilds formed – associations of people in the same line of work = New division of labor
 - Professors, students, merchants
- Territorial kingdoms, city states gradually started to overtake authority of feudal relationships

Economic Expansion and Change

- Agricultural Revolution
- More food=more available food=increase in population (1000AD -1300 AD)
- Trade increases
- Towns wrote Charters
 - Set rights and privileges in the town
- Middle Class created



Urban Life in the Middle Ages

- No Sanitation, Smelly, filthy, noisy, overcrowded



*Sanitation in the Middle Ages,
from an old wood cut*

The Few Wealthy Towns

- Those who could afford it – began to build outstanding Gothic style Cathedrals
- Replaced Romanesque (around since the mid-eleventh century)
- 12th century – Gothic cathedrals have details such as arches, stained-glass windows, gargoyles

Gothic Cathedrals









The Crusades!



- European Christendom wanted to expand (just as every other empire)
- Problems:
 - 1) The Vikings of Scandinavia raided much of Europe during the middle ages and
 - Traveled using *longships* – conduct coastal raids
 - Threatened stability
 - Threatened maritime trade



The Invaders

- In 1093, Byzantine Emperor named Alexius Comnenus ask for help against invaders
 - THE INVADERS: The Muslim Turks aka Ottoman Turks
- The Muslim Turks were trying to take over the Byzantine capital of CONSTANTINOPLE



Pope Urban II

- Pope Urban II read the letter asking for help and called for a “holy war” or CRUSADE
- He said those who fought and died in the Crusades would be promised a spot in Heaven with all sins forgiven



Pope Urban II Preaches the First Crusade



Pope Urban II Sends Off the First Crusade

THE GOAL

- The goal of these Christian soldiers were to recover
 - 1. Jerusalem and
 - 2. Holy Land
- They wanted it back from the Muslim Turks



Crusader Spirit

- There were economic and religious motives for the Crusades
 - **Kings and the Church:** A way to get rid of knights who always fought each other and threatened the peace of the kingdom
 - **Younger Sons:** A way to gain land and position in society since the oldest son gets everything
 - **Knights and Commoners:** fired by religious zeal (passion)





Armored Knights in Battle This painting from around 1135 shows the armament of knights at the time of the Crusades. Chain mail, a helmet, and a shield carried on the left side protect the rider. The lance carried underarm and the sword are the primary weapons. Notice that riders about to make contact with lances have their legs straight and braced in the stirrups, while riders with swords and in flight have bent legs.



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First Crusade



Second Crusade



- Muslim leader Saladin takes control of Jerusalem
- Muslim Turks reconquer the city
- Saladin is described to be honest and brave

Third Crusade

- Richard the Lion Hearted = English King and two other leaders recapture Jerusalem
- He and Saladin respected each other



In the End

- The Christians are finally pushed out of Jerusalem
- Muslim Turks are the victors and take over the Byzantine in 1453



Effects of the Crusades

- Stimulated TRADE
 - -new products introduced
- - cities and towns grew in importance port cities in Italy became important trading centers (Venice)
- •Weakened Feudalism
 - -Nobles and Knights left or sold their fiefs to fight.
 - -Many serfs were given freedom.
- •Kings of Europe became more powerful
- •Increased use of money
- •Spread of ideas, cultures, and advancements
- Lasting bitterness between all three major monotheistic religions at the time
- Persecution of the Jews throughout the region